

STREAMLINED PALLET HANDLING APPARATUS AND METHOD**Abstract**

Methods and an apparatus are disclosed for handling pallets to be inspected
5 and sorted. The method can include tipping a substantially vertically oriented pallet
in a forward rotational direction to expose and allow inspection of a trailing major
surface of the pallet. A lower portion of the pallet then can be moved to cause the
pallet to tip in a rearward rotational direction and land in a substantially horizontal
position. The apparatus can include a pallet restraining device for blocking the
10 motion of an upper portion of the pallet as it tips in the forward rotational direction
and a conveyor for moving the lower portion of the pallet to cause the pallet to tip in
the rearward rotational direction.